

CLAIMS

1. A geosynchronous satellite including antenna means for communicating with an area of the terrestrial surface, characterized in that it includes attitude control means whereby North (24) and South (26) walls of the satellite are at all times parallel to the solar radiation (28'), and adjustment means so that the antenna means are always pointed toward the terrestrial coverage area.
2. The satellite according to claim 1 characterized in that it includes solar panels (30) perpendicular to the solar radiation whose surface is fastened to the body of the satellite.
3. The satellite according to claim 1 characterized in that it includes a support (32) for all the antenna means that can be oriented relative to the body (22) of the satellite including the North and South walls.
4. The satellite according to claim 3 characterized in that telecommunication electronics means (92) are fastened to the support for the antenna means.
5. The satellite according to claim 4 characterized in that the attitude control means and the support adjustment means are fastened to the body of the satellite.
6. The satellite according to claim 1 characterized in that the adjustment means for maintaining the antenna means pointed at all times toward the coverage area include electronic scanning means (32').
7. The satellite according to claim 1 characterized in that the adjustment means for maintaining the antenna means directed at all times toward the terrestrial coverage area are also used for pointing corrections and/or to modify the position of the coverage area.
8. The satellite according to claim 1 characterized in that the North and/or South walls are covered with white paint.
9. The satellite according to claim 1 characterized in that output multiplexers are disposed on an outside face and preferably associated with radiant thermal control by direct exposure to space.
10. The satellite according to claim 3 characterized in that the antenna means include reflectors (50, 52) connected to the support (32) by carbon arms (46, 48).
11. The satellite according to claim 10 characterized in that the carbon arms (46, 48) are generally H-shaped.
12. A method of assembling a geosynchronous satellite according to claim 3 characterized in that the support with the antenna means is constructed

separately from the body of the satellite.